

**Sojourning In Moab** (Ruth 1:1-7)

**Proposition:** Every one of God's people that have wandered from the Lord can come home by heeding the life experiences of Elimelech and Naomi's family.

**I. Be Reminded by their Roaming from the Lord** (Vs. 1-2)

A. The Departure for their Roaming (Vs. 1a-c)

B. The Dwelling of their Roaming (Vs. 1c-d, 2e)

**II. Be Warned by the Reproving of the Lord** (Vs. 2-5)

A. An Initial Reproving (Vs. 2a-d)

B. An Intense Reproving (Vs. 3a, 5a)

**III. Be Relieved by her Returning to the Lord** (Vs. 6-7)

A. Her Repentant Return (Vs. 6b)

B. Her Resigned Return (Vs. 7)

## Sorjourning in Moab (Ruth 1:1-7)

For the next several Sunday nights I feel led of the Lord to preach from the Book of Ruth. W.G. Heslop writes But the first scene is a scene of departure from Gods will and the tragedy that such a departure can bring. William Kirkpatrick was a popular minister of music on the Methodist Campmeeting scene in the 1840's. On one occasion He became burdened for one of the other soloists at the meeting who upon singing his part would immediately leave the meeting and would withdraw from the fellowship times, typical of those who are away from God. William began to pray for the man and God laid it on his heart to write an emulation song and have the man sing it. Upon singing the new song the man stayed and was the first in the altar getting right with the Lord. The song Kirkpatrick wrote was Lord, I'm coming home. Similarly our story tonight has the same result. Every one of us that has wandered can come home.

## I. The Roaming From the Lord.

When the Judges ruled, Judges 21:25. Many of Gods people follow same verse. They sit on the throne of heart that doesn't belong to God. It is not God's will that we should rule.



is a famine. Gods Judged on a nation

### A. The Departure For their Roaming

Bethlehem - Judah - Bethlehem is the house of bread. Judah means praise. Ebenezer - My God is King. Naomi - Pleasant Ephrathites - fruitful. It seems as though this was the place of Gods will. Despite the fact of a famine, God is still King, the supply of the Lord is faithful. Peace and Pleasantness will be brought by being in the will of God. Don't let a famine in your life cause your eyes to look elsewhere. A famine should lift <sup>upward</sup> ~~the~~ eye.

### B. The Dwelling of their Roaming

Their roaming took them to the Land of Moab. Ps 108:9 describes Moab: Moab is My Washpot. J Vernon McGee paraphrase it as Moab is My Garbage can. They left the house of Bread for a Garbage can. Moab is always seen in a negative light in Bible. Type of the old man and fleshly desire of old life. Moab too Bethlehem not far, separated by Jordan. Spiritual life vs Natural life. Once God was King but now led by flesh so soon short the Sons to heathen minds further depart.

### II. The Reproof of The Lord

Heb 12:6. First there is chastening then. No - No teach rule + under the there is scourging. With each trespass the punishment is more intense.

1) W.G. Heslop writes, "The book of Ruth consists of less than 100 verses, and yet it would be impossible to exhaust it during the lifetime of a minister preaching from it every Sunday. . It is a garden enclosed, a mine filled with the rarest and richest gems and rubies, a treasury of illuminating truths." In the book of Ruth there are scenes that are tragic, domestic, romantic, dramatic, historic, and prophetic. Yet each scene is a mine filled with precious gems. It is one of two books in the Bible that is named after a woman. There is Esther, a Jew that married a Gentile husband, and Ruth, a Gentile that married a Hebrew husband. A fitting title for the book would be The Love Story of Redemption. The Book of Ruth is a beautiful picture of Christ's great love for us and the redemption He purchased for us. The key word and thought in the book is that of a "Kinsman" (Note 2:20). As we go through the book we will see this love story of redemption unfold and be reminded that Jesus is our Kinsman Redeemer.

2) Hebrews 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

1) With wisdom, the book of Ruth is a story of a woman who is a foreigner and yet is able to be a part of the people of God. It is a story of a woman who is a foreigner and yet is able to be a part of the people of God. It is a story of a woman who is a foreigner and yet is able to be a part of the people of God.

1) 1 Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

2) 1 Corinthians 11:30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.



This is what we see here.

**A. An Initial Reproving** - Notice the names of these boys. Mahlon = sick, ill, unhealthy. Chilion = "Pining away, puny." Could it be that their heart began to drift long before they left Bethlehem. Now I want to be clear here not every negative thing that happens to us is the chastening of God. (Peter 5:10) But when chastening does come from God, I believe you will clearly know it! This family knew the word of God and yet they persisted in their wandering from God as it cost them.

**B. An Intense Reproving** - Vs 3 + Vs 5  
God will use various means to get our attention, sickness, finances, sorrow, pain. But if we persist, God's discipline may become more drastic, + even fatal. Paul conveyed this truth to Corinth, (1 Cor 11:30) Because of certain sin God disciplined his people. God can deal with us in a firm way and even in a fatal way. But let this be a warning to all of us, a rearing from God will bring the reproof of God!

**III. The Return to the Lord** - There in a pagan land in a pagan cemetery was buried 3 of God's people. A monument to a Jealous God. No doubt the grieving



ever leave<sup>her</sup> behind them? A Place where God was King

**A. Her Repentance** - VS 6 Notice that she is returning and also the phrase from the country of Moab. It seems the Bilal is going out of its way to describe this turning. From one direction to another. That is what repentance is. Turn from one direction toward an opposing direction. Repentance is an essential part of not only the salvation of sinners, but the sanctification of saints. We in our flesh are bent toward Moab, we must purposely repent, <sup>to face God.</sup> turn away.

**B. Her Resign** - Naomi had resigned in her heart that this place was not what it had presented itself to be. That the price for her rebellion was too high. That it was only a matter of time till the chastening of the Lord would find her. Just like the prodigal son. She came to her senses and made her way back to the Lord. Many of us need to resign in our hearts that this hard land or again off again Moab experience is too high a price <sup>and make a joy not worth it</sup> to pay.

**IV Closing** - Kirkpatrick's song that that dove that young soldier to the Lord went like this did wander far away from God, Now I'm coming home, the paths of sin too long did tread... Is that

- 1) In verse 6, news arrived, that God had visited his people. This must have rekindled a remembrance of what it was like to be in God's land and with God's people.